

***Remarks***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claim 1 is pending in the application. Claim 2 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

***Conclusion***

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicant believes the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert Sokohl  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 36,013

Date: 11/4/03

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600